

April 7, 1988

LB 90, 419, 419A, 445, 664, 664A, 684
703, 823, 835, 855, 890, 987, 987A
1013, 1013A

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 835E passes. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and I do sign LB 684, LB 987, LB 987A, LB 419, LB 419A, LB 823, LB 890, LB 1013, LB 1013A, LB 90, LB 445, LB 664, and LB 664A, and finally LB 703. Next bill, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I have a motion on the desk. Senator Higgins would move to return LB 855 to Select File for a specific amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. As you will recall, 855 is Senator Ashford's bill that would allow three insurance companies to pay up to \$215,000 combined a year in taxes, and after three years, they would pay no more taxes, and I think it is important for the body to know there are 15 amendments up there on this bill, and it isn't my intention to delay anybody else's bills from passing. It is my intention to finally and hopefully prove a point that if you say, yes, this year, next year it will be another industry that will come in here and say, look, we can't afford to pay the taxes, we don't want to pay the taxes, and unless we get this special tax break, and I don't care what their reasons are. I can't go to the IRS and you can't either and give them any special reasons about your competitors and what is going on in other states, and you can't tell them I hire a chauffeur and a butler and a maid and a nanny, and because I have so many employees, they pay enough income tax to take care of what I won't pay. So with that, I would just like to tell you, 15 amendments, if nobody stands up and debates at all, it will be 10 minutes for me to open. 5 minutes for me to close. It will amount to five hours. I am doing it because last year we rushed into 775, and even last night, Senator Wesely stood there and said, yes, we didn't listen to those of you who opposed it. We made a mistake. That is why we have bills this year trying to correct the errors we made in 775. So with that, I would just ask Senator Ashford if maybe his insurance companies would want to pass over his bill until the last one, and the rest of them can be read, or if he is prepared to go on with this, I will. But, believe me, I believe in what I am doing, and perhaps the Speaker could then tell all of you, go ahead and walk around for five hours, but I am prepared to stand here and talk that long, if it takes that long to make the point. Now I won't take the full 10 minutes